

**BIG SKY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND (BSTF)**  
**Project Summary for Calendar Year 2006**

The Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund was created by the 2005 Montana Legislature. It is designed to aid in the development of good paying jobs for Montana residents and promote long-term stable economic growth in Montana. The first funding commitments were made in 2006. By statute, 75% of the Big Sky Trust Fund's earnings will be used to fund Category I: Economic Development projects and 25% of the earnings will be used to fund Category II: Planning Grant projects. Currently, three (3) Category I: Economic Development Projects awards and twenty-two (22) Category II: Planning Grants awards have been made.

**Category I: Economic Development Projects**

**Category I funds are awarded to local government entities and require the creation of net new full-time jobs that provide wages that meet or exceed the current average weekly wage of the county, excluding benefits. Jobs referenced below meet this threshold.**

**CDI Business Solutions – Aerospace**

Jobs Created: 40

Leveraged Funds: \$1,542,492

BSTF Funds: \$200,000

Matching funds sources:

All matching funds were provided by CDI Business Solutions.

A \$200,000 grant was awarded to the City of Bozeman for the training 40 new employees, mostly drafters and engineers for work on the Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation contract at the new CDI Engineering Design Center in Bozeman. The jobs must pay at least \$13.90 per hour, excluding benefits.

**DIRECTV Customer Services, Inc.**

Jobs Created: 92

Total Project Cost: \$20,515,000

BSTF Funds: \$460,000

Matching funds sources:

CDBG-ED \$ 400,000

Workforce Training: \$1,955,000

Board of Investments: \$9,600,000

Missoula County: \$3,100,000

DIRECTV: \$5,000,000

A \$460,000 grant was awarded to Missoula County toward the purchase of a completely constructed building in the Missoula County Development Park. The County will then lease the building to DIRECTV. The program support will result in the creation of 92 net

new jobs that pay over \$13.75 per hour, excluding benefits. The award will support the creation of over 950 total jobs at the DIRECTV project site over the next several years.

**Summit Aeronautics Group**

Jobs Created: 40

Total Project Cost: \$22,000,000

BSTF Funds: \$200,000

Matching Funds Sources:

Workforce Training Grant: \$200,000

Board of Investments: \$1,775,915

Summit: \$19,824,085

A \$200,000 grant was awarded to the Helena Regional Airport Authority to support the expansion of Summit Aeronautics by reducing a lease rate increase that resulted from the relocation of a gas pipeline. The assistance awarded will assist in the creation of 40 net new jobs that pay at least \$15 per hour, excluding benefits.

**Category II: Planning Grants**

**Category II funds are awarded to Certified Regional Development Corporations (CRDCs) or other eligible economic development organizations for economic development planning activities.**

**Safflower Technologies Incorporated LLC**

**\$10,000**

Grant was awarded to Eastern Plains RC&D for an analysis and report of the most efficient oilseed equipment, plan capabilities and infrastructure requirements for a specialty oilseed processing facility in Montana.

**Chippewa Development Corporation / Tribal Capitol**

**\$10,000**

Grant was awarded to Sweetgrass Development Corporation to support the development of the Chippewa Development Corporation and the completion of a business plan for the proposed Tribal Capitol and Visitor Center for the Little Shell Chippewa Tribe.

**Tire Depot Feasibility Study**

**\$ 5,700**

Grant was awarded to Lake County Community Development Corporation for a feasibility study to determine options for tire recycling operation to expand into other markets - would include economic analysis of rubber crumb markets, manufacturing cost structure, and supply availability.

**Big Sky Biodiesel - Design/Site Analysis**

**\$10,000**

Grant was awarded to Eastern Plains RC&D to assist Big Sky Biodiesel for design consultation and site analysis to determine the infrastructure requirements for a new biodiesel refinery in Glendive, Montana.

**Wind Energy Farm Feasibility Study** **\$10,000**

Grant was awarded to Eastern Plains RC&D to assist with a technical analysis and study to determine project feasibility for a potential wind energy farm in Dawson and McCone Counties.

**Double D Motel & Truck Plaza - Expansion Feasibility Study** **\$ 6,800**

Grant was awarded to Southeastern Montana Development Corporation for a feasibility study to determine the economic viability of the development of the Double D Motel and Truck Plaza near Broadus, Montana.

**HUB Economic Resource Catalogue for Glendive & Dawson County** **\$7,500**

Grant was awarded to Eastern Plains RC&D to support the development of an economic development resource catalogue for Glendive and Dawson County.

**"A Plumm Summer" Film Assistance** **\$25,000**

Grant to Northern Rocky Mountain RC&D to provide financial and technical assistance to Fairplay Pictures to produce and film the family picture "Plumm Summer" in Gallatin & Park Counties.

**West Yellowstone Higher Education Feasibility Study** **\$14,500**

Grant to Northern Rocky Mountain RC&D to develop a feasibility study to determine the best course of action for expanding and diversifying West Yellowstone's economy through higher education opportunities.

**Southwest Montana Community Marketing Plans** **\$20,000**

Grant to Gateway Economic Development Corporation to support East Helena, Lincoln, Townsend and White Sulphur Springs (White Sulphur Springs later withdrew) in community marketing efforts.

**MERDI Telecast of Sports/Activities - Business Plan** **\$10,400**

Grant to Headwaters RC&D for business plan for a new cable television program for Frontier Conference Sporting events.

**Ranchland Packing -Feasibility Study & Business Plan** **\$14,922**

Grant to Headwaters RC&D to support development of a feasibility study, business plan and wastewater engineering study for the expansion of Ranchland Packing.

**Entrepreneurship Center** **\$13,500**

Grant to Ravalli County EDA to create a business plan for entrepreneur center - facility would enable scientists and entrepreneurs to build their businesses within a collaborative community with access to cutting edge laboratories, and business services.

**Assisted Living Center in Lima – Preliminary Architectural Report** **\$10,000**

Grant to Headwaters RC&D support development of a demographic study, preliminary architectural report and business plan for an Assisted Living Center in Lima.

**Growth Policy/BID Redevelopment Plan for Big Sandy** **\$15,000**  
Grant to Bear Paw Development Corporation for development of a Growth Policy and Central Business Redevelopment Plan for the Town of Big Sandy.

**Missoula County Technology District Development** **\$50,000**  
Grant to Missoula Area EDC to support the development of the Technology District as well as coordinating activities related to the DIRECTV and Technology District projects in Missoula County.

**Fiber Roll Manufacturing Feasibility Study** **\$ 9,500**  
Grant to Snowy Mountain Development Corp for the development of a feasibility study for a fiber roll manufacturing facility in Fergus County.

**Beaverhead County Beef Feasibility** **\$19,000**  
Grant to Headwaters RC&D for the development of a feasibility study and business plan for a beef processing facility in Beaverhead County.

**Fort Peck Tribes Update Economic & Social/Human Dev. Plan** **\$13,000**  
Grant to Great Northern Development Corporation for Development of Strategic Economic and Social/Human Development Plan for Fort Peck Tribes.

**Sanjel USA - Site Study** **\$15,000**  
Grant to Southeastern Montana Development Corp. for Site Selection and Development Strategy to support the expansion of oil and gas company Sanjel USA.

**Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** **\$15,000**  
Grant to Snowy Mountain Development Corp. for development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for 6 County Region in Central Montana.

**Business Expansion and Retention (BEAR) Program** **\$15,000**  
Grant to Kalispell Chamber of Commerce for development and management of a Business Expansion and Retention (BEAR) program.